

# SONG OF THE GLAD FOLKS

By FRANK L. STANTON.

I reckon the folks'll enjoy the Thanksgiving—  
So many of 'em are glad that they're livin'.  
Here, in a world that's so happy,  
no skies  
Beam any brighter than Love's  
sparklin' eyes.

Day time or night time,  
They're findin' the bright time,  
An' any time Love comes is always  
the right time.



TELLING YOU STILL,  
TO COME TO THE TABLE BY VALLEY AND HILL.

With the fields sayin' "Plenty," an' tellin' you still  
To come to the table, by valley and hill,  
An' the winds singin' Joy as they're sweepin' along,  
I reckon we're here for a Thanksgivin' song.

So, day time or night time,  
We're reapin' the bright time,  
An' any time Love comes is always  
the right time.

—Atlanta Constitution.

Not Essentially American.

Our American Thanksgiving is usually considered our one native contribution to the holidays of nations, as its observance originated with the New England fathers. Perhaps the fathers themselves liked to think of it in this originative way and so wished it perpetuated as something that had flowered on the bleak rock of their personal struggle. It was to be peculiarly their day, peculiarly a heroic New England day, an American day. So in a sense it is; so in a sense it is not. Essentially our American Thanksgiving is least American of our holidays, for the simple reason that it is too human to be merely American. There were no most human things left for the New England fathers to originate. They are immemorially older than this country. There are no original ways of expressing gratitude. All the pathways of thanksgiving are very old paths.—James Lane Allen in Munsey's Magazine.

## "I THANK THEE, LORD."

I THANK thee, Lord, for every moment dropped  
Into my life that had some sweetness in it;  
For all the golden hours when friendship met  
And gave up heart for heart and thought for thought;  
For all the love that faithful hearts let fall  
To drop into mine own; for every look  
From loving eyes; for every smile or word  
That gladdened me; for subtle influence  
That made me strong, dear Lord, I thank thee.

I thank thee, Lord; I thank thee for the hours  
When flowed my tears;  
When fell those grief wrung drops  
On lips that murmured, "Lord, thou knowest best."  
For all the love born sorrow, hidden pain;  
For all the cares and burdens of my life  
(For, glad or sad, thou givest for the best);  
For all the strength thou gavest me to bear,  
Dear Lord, I thank thee.

—Rose Pastor.

# NEW YORK "KIDS" ON THANKSGIVING

ON Thanksgiving day the visitor to New York city, especially if he extends his observations to the poorer districts of the city, is much amused and interested by the ragamuffins who form a quaint and distinctive part of the city's celebration of the day. These ragamuffins are youngsters of both sexes who dress in all sorts of queer and elaborate costumes and parade the streets.

There is no concerted general parade, but merely local assemblages, seldom over ten or twenty in number. Most of the groups are smaller. To "dress up" the ragamuffins often add begging for small coins, fruit, candy, etc., and it is this feature of the annual masquerading that has led in recent years to a demand for its suppression. Often New York parents will give permission to their children to masquerade, but they add strict injunctions against begging. They are willing to let Johnny or Jennie enjoy the day in the ancient, time honored manner, but they set their faces against mendicancy. "You may dress up and go out, but you mustn't do any begging," is the order.

Many of the young ragamuffins find their greatest joy in arraying themselves in the clothing of the opposite sex. Half grown boys trail long skirts behind them or imitate the fashion when it calls for short skirts. And the hats they wear are wonderful and fearful creations. The little girls like to don trousers and discarded men's hats. Often the boys and girls black their faces, but not many masks are seen. Well known characters are frequently imitated, and in the recent past a certain "movie" comedian with a funny



A FUNNY RAGAMUFFIN.

walk and a laughable little mustache has been much in evidence on Thanksgiving day in the New York streets.

This Thanksgiving mummery in New York, which is not found in any other city, is a local custom, dating several decades to the old target companies which used to shoot for prizes. They were ward bodies in the days before the districts known as wards were abolished. On Thanksgiving day these target companies assembled and paraded from house to house, visiting the prominent men of each ward. These men, city officials, judges, politicians, etc., gave prizes which were shot for later in the day, and the day's festivities wound up with a ball. The target companies were succeeded by companies of men called "ragamuffins" or "fantastics," who dressed in fantastic garb on Thanksgiving day. These adult ragamuffins have now been succeeded by the youngsters who "dress up."

In a recent letter an old New Yorker writes thus of the ragamuffins:

"I was interested in reading your article on the subject of the Thanksgiving day mummery, and I am rather surprised that some ancient person in the Greenwich village could not give you some information as to the origin of the custom, which, as far as I know, is local to New York."

"In my boyhood in the early seventies there used to parade through the streets on Thanksgiving day bands of grown men, some on foot, some on horseback and others in the two wheeled butcher carts of the day, clad in eccentric and fantastic clothes. These bands or companies called themselves the 'fantastics' and were called by the people of the street the 'ragamuffins.' They paraded in a spirit of more or less glee and were received with good nature and amusement."

"I used to be told by my elders that the fantasticals paraded in derision and mockery of the militia parades of the time, but their humor was probably leveled against the militia of an earlier date and possibly in memory of the general muster and training of a still earlier day."

# ABOUT THE BIRD OF THANKSGIVING

THE bronze turkey, that variety which today holds the place of honor in the North American group of turkeys, is outdone by none when it comes to beauty or size. Black, beautifully shaded with a rich bronze, the breast plumage being dark bronze illuminated with a lustrous flash of coppery gold, gives full warrant for the name by which this bird is known.

The full grown, healthy bird is a beautiful picture of bronze, black, copper and gold and sometimes weighs forty or more pounds. Other varieties known in the barnyard and even recognized among dealers as having distinctive markings are in reality only highly developed fowls with preserved peculiarities. Under this classification comes the white turkey.

In the United States there are six standard varieties recognized and grown. These are the bronze, Narragansett, buff, slate, white and black. The chief differences are in size and color of plumage.

The bronze and Narragansett are the largest, the buff and slate medium, while the white and black are the smallest. Within late years, however, the white variety has reached such a point of popularity that it has increased in size until with some dealers it occupies third place.

Whatever the turkey may have missed through failing to secure that place of honor suggested for it by Benjamin Franklin—as the national bird—it has nevertheless found a place in the regard of the American people which is held by no other fowl.

Time was when a turkey, or as many as could be carried, might be had at most for asking. Then came the period when 50 cents would buy a plump young fowl. Even so short a time as ten years ago turkeys could be purchased for from 8 to 20 cents a pound, dressed.

Some interesting figures were at one time compiled by the department of agriculture in connection with the turkey. In 1896 the census showed the turkey population in the United States to be 12,000,000. Four years later the department found there were but 6,500,000. Such a discrepancy needed investigation. It was made, and the answer was soon forthcoming.

In the year 1896 the breeders had literally counted their eggs before they were hatched, and the consequent total included all pullets, eggs in the nest and birds expected as well as the grown turkeys. With the latter figure only birds of three months or more were included. That figure, therefore, is the true estimate of the average annual turkey supply at that time, while today the supply has increased with the rising demand each year.

But even with the increase that has come with the passing years the supply is not sufficient or the price low enough for every person in this country to include it in the list of Thanksgiving features. And so the picture which Gray painted cannot hold true. He wrote, "From the low peasant to the lord, the turkey smokes on every board."—New York Sun.

Origin of Thanksgiving.

In colonial days it was customary to appoint days of fasting or feasting, of prayer or thanksgiving, when public events seemed to warrant this recognition. In 1789 Washington ordered a day of thanksgiving for the adoption of the Federal constitution. Subsequently various days in November were recommended by presidents and governors until, in 1863, the regular observance of a national Thanksgiving day was instituted through a proclamation of President Lincoln. The president's proclamation does not make it a national holiday. It applies legally only to the District of Columbia and the territories. It is the governors' proclamations that affect the states. The day is observed in all states, but in some it is not a statutory holiday. Thursday was originally selected by the Puritans probably because, being near the middle of the week, it gave opportunity for the scattered members of the family to come together and to return without desecrating the Sabbath by travel. November was selected as the month when the fall harvests were all gathered. Other countries have Thanksgiving days for special occasions, such as success in battle or the deliverance of the people from a national calamity, but the fixed annual Thanksgiving day is a custom belonging to America alone.

"Harvest Home" and Thanksgiving.

The harvest home of the Saxons and Celts, the cerealia of the Romans, the Israelitish feast of tabernacles and, for all that we know to the contrary, the first harvest celebration of pre-adamite man were the actual precursors of our Thanksgiving. Even among the American Indians there was held an autumnal festival which might not unjustly claim precedence as the true aboriginal Thanksgiving of the western world. Modern observances of Thanksgiving, with their sporting features, are denounced in certain quarters as sadly at variance from the ideas of the Plymouth colonists during their first golden autumn on the coast of Cape Cod bay. Indications are not altogether wanting, however, that the manner of celebrating has changed in non-essentials only. No longer is a whole week devoted to Thanksgiving, as in the days of Governor Bradford. A single day suffices.

# PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COMMISSION

Owosso, Nov. 20, 1916.  
Regular meeting of the Commission, Mayor DeYoung presiding.  
Members present, DeYoung, Hanscom, Rosevear.

The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and approved as printed.

## PETITIONS

The following petition was presented and referred to the department of public improvement:  
Petition No. 843.  
To the Commission of the City of Owosso, Gentlemen:  
We, the undersigned property owners residing on S. Saginaw street between South and Stewart streets, petition for the grading of said S. Saginaw street between Ridge and Stewart streets.

Signed:  
F. E. Beebe and five others.

The following petition was presented and referred to the department of public utilities:  
Petition No. 844.  
To the Commission of the City of Owosso:  
The undersigned taxpayers respectfully petition your honorable body to cause a street light to be placed on South Chipman street near the Grand Trunk tracks.

Signed:  
John H. Dibeau and three others.

## REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS

The following report was presented and ordered printed:

Owosso, Mich., Nov. 20, 1916

To the Honorable Mayor and Commission of the City of Owosso, Michigan:  
Below is a statement of the receipts and disbursements of the City Treasurer's office for the month of October, 1916, with a detailed statement of the balances in the various funds Nov. 1, 1916.

Balance on hand Oct. 1, 1916	\$ 67,957.30
Receipts	
Contingent Fund	60.35
Justice fees and fines	132.52
Int. on deposits	211.27
City Clerk's coll.	404.14
Sidewalk fund	
Local Owosso Sav Bank	1,030.00
Interest and sinking	25.00
In erect on bonds	25.00
Loan, State Savings Bank	1,000.00
Fire Dept fund	
City Clerk's coll.	25.00
Water works	
City Clerk's coll.	3702.47
W Main St Pavment No. 2	381.71
Summer tax coll.	381.71
So Wash St Pav No. 1	2000.00
Bond loan, State Sav Bank	3200.00
Library fund	8.00
City Clerk's coll.	54.90
Store and Def fund	54.90
City Clerk's coll.	54.90
	\$ 9776.47

Disbursements	
Contingent Fund	203.02
Police Department	375.93
Sidewalk	278.81
General sidewalk	1015.90
General street	1112.00
Int. and sinking	2913.67
Refunded Park bonds	1208.95
Fire Dept (Int and Sinking)	728.45
W. Main St Paving Repair	728.45
Refunded paving fund	728.45
Sprinkling fund	728.45
Fire	924.16
Water Works	2750.18
Ref. and Adv. sewer	92.94
Health	30.00
Light	728.45
Corruption road Sewer No. 3	12.00
Howell & Lynn St sewer	18.00
W Main St Paving No. 2	919.24
Oliver & Wash Pav	27.50
S Wash St Pav No. 1	3309.06
Library	183.15
Park	36.50
Salary	624.97
Store and deficiency	89.03
	\$ 19559.50

Fund Balances	
Contingent	\$ 3286.15
Police	273.00
Sidewalk	724.36
General sidewalk	1502.84
General street	2126.45
Int. and sinking fund	1401.00
Ref. and Adv. sewer	376.76
U & W St paving bond	5402.55
Ref. and Adv. sewer	4718.08
Ref. and Adv. sewer	1122.00
Ref. and Adv. sewer	460.91
Ref. and Adv. sewer	728.45
Ref. and Adv. sewer	728.45
Ref. and Adv. sewer	2172.05
Ref. and Adv. sewer	36.24
Ref. and Adv. sewer	302.00
Ref. and Adv. sewer	302.00
Ref. and Adv. sewer	2780.49
Ref. and Adv. sewer	327.76
Ref. and Adv. sewer	994.38
Ref. and Adv. sewer	970.00
Ref. and Adv. sewer	22.61
Ref. and Adv. sewer	273.11
Ref. and Adv. sewer	1.00
Ref. and Adv. sewer	61.84
Ref. and Adv. sewer	139.91
Ref. and Adv. sewer	32.21
Ref. and Adv. sewer	28.50
Ref. and Adv. sewer	49.80
Ref. and Adv. sewer	18.71
Ref. and Adv. sewer	59.87
Ref. and Adv. sewer	179.31
Ref. and Adv. sewer	1.01
Ref. and Adv. sewer	8.10
Ref. and Adv. sewer	18.74
Ref. and Adv. sewer	10.75
Ref. and Adv. sewer	12.18
Ref. and Adv. sewer	83.36
Ref. and Adv. sewer	52.62
Ref. and Adv. sewer	12.18
Ref. and Adv. sewer	77.33
Ref. and Adv. sewer	35.11
Ref. and Adv. sewer	15.30
Ref. and Adv. sewer	74.06
Ref. and Adv. sewer	8.67
Ref. and Adv. sewer	29.47
Ref. and Adv. sewer	62.73
Ref. and Adv. sewer	48.48
Ref. and Adv. sewer	31.00
Ref. and Adv. sewer	13.98
Ref. and Adv. sewer	84.54
Ref. and Adv. sewer	32.00
Ref. and Adv. sewer	363.31
Ref. and Adv. sewer	12.64
Ref. and Adv. sewer	128.93
Ref. and Adv. sewer	10.04
Ref. and Adv. sewer	30.15
Ref. and Adv. sewer	41.75
Ref. and Adv. sewer	26.06
Ref. and Adv. sewer	167.25
Ref. and Adv. sewer	27.30
Ref. and Adv. sewer	42.28
Ref. and Adv. sewer	7.89
Ref. and Adv. sewer	224.28
Ref. and Adv. sewer	1582.73
Ref. and Adv. sewer	5082.25
Ref. and Adv. sewer	1721.17
Ref. and Adv. sewer	449.21
Ref. and Adv. sewer	17.43
Ref. and Adv. sewer	18.54
Ref. and Adv. sewer	1569.73
Ref. and Adv. sewer	579.03
Ref. and Adv. sewer	306.24
Ref. and Adv. sewer	319.76
Ref. and Adv. sewer	31.73
Ref. and Adv. sewer	1.91
Ref. and Adv. sewer	39.25
Ref. and Adv. sewer	21.48
Ref. and Adv. sewer	51.69
Ref. and Adv. sewer	86.13
Ref. and Adv. sewer	14.14
Ref. and Adv. sewer	13.99
Ref. and Adv. sewer	\$ 63297.15
Ref. and Adv. sewer	32.88
Balance Nov 1st, 1916,	\$ 82,04.27

## STOCK STATEMENTS

For the month of October, 1916.

Citizens Savings Bank	\$1784.89
Owosso Savings Bank	1582.73
City Bonds	7255.80
	\$ 10623.42
Cash on hand	5020.99
	5082.25
	\$ 57101.79
City Bonds	4200.10
	\$ 61301.72

# Unpaid Checks

Balance Nov. 1st, 1916, \$ 52904.27

Respectfully submitted,  
A. T. WRIGHT,  
City Treasurer.

## NEW BUSINESS

The following resolution was presented and on motion of Mr. Rosevear same was adopted, ayes DeYoung, Hanscom, Rosevear:

Resolved by the Commission of the City of Owosso that the claims and accounts hereto attached be approved and the Mayor and Clerk be and they are hereby instructed to issue warrants on the City Treasurer against the various funds for amounts shown:

November 20, 1916.

Resolved by the Commission of the City of Owosso that the claims and accounts hereto attached be approved and the Mayor and Clerk be and they are hereby instructed to issue warrants on the City Treasurer against the various funds for amounts shown:

FROM CONTINGENT FUND

P. R. Foster 1.00  
Kelly & Douglas 65  
Arthur Kirby 12.56  
L. H. McDowell 1.25  
Jesse Clark 1.00

FROM POLICE DEPARTMENT FUND

Phillips & Taylor 1.50  
Townsend-Fulmer Co. 50  
P. Scott 10  
W. S. Patterson 17.50  
G. J. D. Byes 16.75  
A. Gerard 16.75  
M. Kirby 16.75

FROM SIDEWALK FUND

Fred Welch 8.58  
J. Frischke 7.75  
Fred Burhans 2.06  
Wm. Burton 6.4  
Arthur Kirby 2.56  
J. Hutchings 2.50  
R. Hauswith 2.51  
J. C. Collard 4.95

FROM GENERAL STREET FUND

J. Frischke 17.81  
Fred Welch 7.51  
J. S. Warrick 1.50  
Southard & Denmore 15  
Owosso Electric Co. 8.75  
Sam Plant 1.25  
Mike Manzoni 1.25  
Bert Marz 1.25  
Store and Def fund 4.41  
J. C. Collard 3.75  
Wm. King 3.75  
M. Kirby 3.75  
Bert Marz 5.50  
Store and Def fund 13.50  
Wm. King 2.25  
Wm. Burton 6.00  
Arthur Kirby 2.75  
R. Hauswith 2.75  
P. Myers 2.75  
W. King 10.50  
J. S. Warrick 10.50  
Sam Plant 4.40  
J. S. Warrick 1.36  
C. Lewis 5.00  
Dave Cope 5.00  
J. S. Warrick 5.25  
R. Hauswith 12.25  
P. Hesse 12.25  
C. Gifford 12.25

FROM FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND

H. A. Dudeck 10.29  
R. Hesse & Son 1.50  
Blair & Gaylord 30  
Sturtevant & Blood Co. 55  
W. D. Allen Mfg Co. 4.95

FROM WATER WORKS FUND

Sturtevant & Blood Co. 5.50  
Expense account 10.13  
J. S. Warrick 1.75  
W. D. Allen Mfg Co. 1.75  
H. S. McKeeby 1.51  
Metropolitan Paving Brick Co. 26.37  
Detroit Lead Pipe Works 47.80  
Cr. Adv. Steam Gage & Valve Co. 4.00  
W. Collard 21.12  
J. S. Warrick 3.25  
F. M. Hephugh 9.00  
O. Henderson 7.87  
J. S. Warrick 12.56  
W. J. Hall 50  
J. Porter 75  
R. D. Dutcher 1.60

FROM HEALTH FUND

Union Tel. Co. 50

From the Corunna Road Sewer, No. 3 Fund

W. King 1.50  
Sam Plant 1.25  
J. S. Warrick 3.50  
R. Hauswith 1.25  
Store and Def fund 3.64

From the S. Washington St. Pavement, No. 1 Fund

Metropolitan Paving Brick Co. 1000.00  
Standard Oil Co. 7.05  
Mich. Cent. R. R. Co. 2.86  
Fred Burhans 4.27  
Expense account 9.97  
J. S. Warrick 0.03  
E. C. Hall 60  
Will King 3.00  
Wm. King 1.36  
Dave Cope 1.25  
C. Lewis 1.25  
J. S. Warrick 2.73  
M. Manzoni 1.38  
Bert Marz 1.38  
Store and Def fund 4.54

From the Liability Fund

A. M. Hume 8.75

FROM LIBRARY FUND

M. DeYoung 1.00  
Chicago Pig & Decorating Co. 4.77  
Earl Patterson 12.00

FROM BENTLEY PARK FUND

J. C. Collard 4.50

STORE & DEFICIENCY FUND

H. S. McKeeby 4.00  
Geo. Freest 13.00

The following ordinance was presented and on motion of Mr. Hanscom same was adopted, ayes DeYoung, Hanscom, Rosevear:

An Ordinance amending Section 27 of an ordinance entitled, "An Ordinance regulating vehicles in and on the streets, highways and public places in the City of Owosso, and to prescribe a penalty for violation thereof," passed and approved May 15, 1916.

Section 1. The City of Owosso Ordains:

Section 2. That Section 27 of an ordinance entitled, "An Ordinance regulating vehicles in and on the streets, highways and public places in the City of Owosso, and to prescribe a penalty for violation thereof," passed and approved May 15, 1916, be and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 27. Every motor vehicle operated on any of the public highways in the City of Owosso shall be provided with adequate brakes sufficient to control the vehicle at all times, and a suitable and adequate bell, horn, or other device for signaling and shall during the period of from one hour after sunset to one hour before sunrise display at least one lighted lamp on the front and one on the rear of such vehicle, which shall also display a red light visible from the rear. The white rays of said rear lamp shall shine upon the number plate carried upon the rear of such vehicle. The light from the front lamp shall be visible at least 200 feet in the direction in which the motor vehicle is proceeding. The light from the rear lamp shall be visible at least 100 feet to the rear of said vehicle, and such rear lamp shall be kept reasonably clean so as not to interfere with the throwing of the light from the same. Every motor vehicle shall be provided and equipped with some practical and efficient device or devices whereby the forward light or lights of such vehicle may be dimmed or lessened to such an extent that such light will not interfere with the sight nor temporarily blind the vision of the driver of an approaching vehicle or pedestrian; and it shall be the duty of every chauffeur or driver of such motor vehicle or other vehicle equipped with such lights to effectively apply such dimmers to the forward light or lights of the vehicle being driven by him and cause such light or lights to be dimmed and lessened so as not to interfere with the sight or temporarily blind the vision of the driver of any approaching vehicle and shall apply such dimmer to the forward light or lights of the vehicle being driven by him and cause such light or lights to be dimmed and lessened at all times while said vehicle is operating upon the paved streets of the City of Owosso. Provided, that motor bicycles or motorcycles shall be required to display during the time above mentioned but one lighted lamp in

the front of such vehicle, the rays of which shall be visible 100 feet in the direction in which the motor vehicle is proceeding and one lighted lamp in the rear, the light from which shall be visible at least 100 feet to the rear of such vehicle and provided further that all bicycles shall be required to display during the time above mentioned one lighted lamp in the front of said bicycle, the rays of which shall be visible 100 feet in the direction in which said bicycle is proceeding; also with an adequate bell.

Section 2. This Ordinance shall take effect 30 days after its adoption and publication.

Passed and approved November 20th, 1916.

JAMES DEYOUNG, Mayor.

Attest: ARTHUR H. DUMOND, City Clerk.

The bill of Elbert Parsons for \$7.50, on a bill the Supreme court in the case of the Auto or General vs. Sadie Woodard was presented and on motion of Mr. Hanscom same was allowed, ayes, DeYoung, Hanscom, Rosevear.

On motion of Mr. Rosevear the Commission adjourned, ayes DeYoung, Hanscom, Rosevear.

JAS. DE YOUNG, Mayor.

ARTHUR H. DUMOND, City Clerk.

Advertised letters at the Owosso post office for the week ending Nov. 18, 1916:

Miss L. A. Babcock, Barry Hospital.

Marion Bitts, C. C. Pipes, Charles Reid.

J. J. Rub, F. H. Smith, Clyde Waid.

Geo. W. Willis.

Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher*

Commissioners' Notice.

In the matter of the estate of Mary Merchant, deceased.

We, the undersigned, having been appointed by the Hon. Matthew H. Judge of Probate in and for the County of Shiawassee, State of Michigan, Commissioners to receive, examine and adjust all claims and demands of all persons against said estate, do hereby give notice that we will meet at the Owosso Savings Bank, in the City of Owosso, in said County, on Monday, the 28th day of January, A. D. 1917, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon of each of said days, for the purpose of receiving and adjusting all claims against said estate, and that four months from the 28th day of November, A. D. 1916, are allowed to creditors to present their claims to said Commissioners for adjustment and allowance.

Dated, the 26th day of November, A. D. 1916.

WORTHY S. COOPER, ARTHUR A. LITTON, Commissioners.

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT

and of special assessment number 136

for the construction of a sewer along

Mason street from Dewey street to

Gilbert street and upon Gilbert street

from Mason street to the south line

of lot 1, block 7 of